SITE 300

Fact Sheet Number Three January 1996 his fact sheet updates the community on the continuing environmental investigations and cleanup at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's (LLNL) Site 300. Site 300 is an 11-square mile test facility located on Corral Hollow Road, about 8 miles from Tracy and 15 miles from Livermore. (Figure 1 shows the location of the site.) It is

operated by the University of California for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Site 300 is used primarily to process, assemble, and test explosive components. Nuclear weapons have not been and are not currently tested at Site 300.

Site 300 was added to the federal Superfund list in August 1990. LLNL/DOE is working on environ-

mental restoration projects to address contaminated soil and ground water in certain areas of Site 300. LLNL/DOE's efforts are being performed under federal Superfund guidance, National Environmental Policy Act regulations, appropriate State regulations, and the U.S. Department of Energy's Environmental Restoration Program.

Environmental Cleanup Plan to be Expedited

Preparing regulatory documents for hazardous waste sites is costly and time consuming. Thankfully, this can now be reduced under the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) without any change or risk to human

health or the environment. This can save millions of dollars and shorten the time to completion of cleanup at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's Site 300 experimental test site.

Conducting "CERCLA Removal Actions" rather than following the usual CERCLA process of extensive document preparation substitutes relatively short documents for the much longer studies and plans. These short documents are called EE/CAs (Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis). Each EE/CA will be made available to the public for review before implementation.

With this new approach, potential sources of ground water contamination will be remediated, low risk ground water contamination will be monitored, human health and the environment will remain protected, and regulatory requirements will be met.

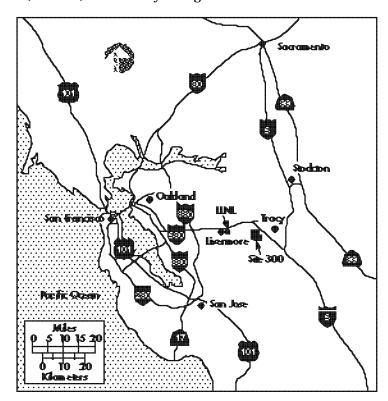


Figure 1. Site 300 location map.

These actions will save the taxpayers millions of dollars, expedite the cleanup of the site, and bring the entire cleanup process to closure sooner.

General

In general, key elements of the new approach are described below and are shown in Table 1.

- •The schedules for the General Services Area and Building 834 Operable Units (areas) do not change.
- The Pit 6 Operable Unit has been incorporated into the overall site plan.
- The Building 850/Pits 3&5 and the HE Process Area/Building 815 Operable Units may also be incorporated into the overall site plan,
 - depending upon the results of further planned evaluation.

- As a result of dissolution of the Operable Units:
 - CERCLA Feasibility Studies, Proposed Plans, and Records of Decision for each of these three areas will not be required
 - Ground water monitoring will continue to be conducted at each of these three areas, as well as other areas on- and off-site.
- Remedial actions required at each of these three areas will be conducted as CERCLA Removal Actions. Examples of activities that can be classified as Removal Actions are soil excavations, landfill capping, trenching, and ground water extraction and treatment.
- An EE/CA document will be prepared for each Removal Action. The EE/CA document evaluates the technical and cost elements of each proposed Removal Action. Each EE/CA document will be made available to the public for review and comment.



Table 1. Revisions to LLNL Site 300 Schedule of Deliverables as a result of CERCLA restructuring

Operable Unit (OU)	Draft FS	Draft Final FS	Draft PP	Draft Final PP	Target Public Meeting Date	Draft ROD	Draft Final ROD
GSA (OU-1)	Completed	9/15/95	12/1/95	2/15/96	6/1/96	7/15/96	12/1/96
Building 834 (OU-2)	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed	Completed
Pit 6 (OU-3) *	Completed	Completed	7/30/95	10/15/95	12/15/95	4/15/96	9/1/96
HE Process Area Building 815 (OU-4) *	12/1/95	4/15/96	7/1/96	9/15/96	11/15/96	2/15/97	7/1/97
Building 850/ Pits 3&5 (OU-5) *	2/15/96	7/1/96	11/15/96	2/1/97	2/20/97	6/20/97	11/5/97
Building 832 Canyon (OU-6)	Characterization work to be completed by October 1, 1997; establish CERCLA pathway						
Building 854	Characterization work to be completed by April 1, 1998; establish CERCLA pathway						

^{*} Items crossed out are to be replaced by Removal Actions and ground water monitoring; actions taken in these Operable Units will be incorporated into the Site 300 Monitoring ROD.

FS = Feasibility Study

PP = Proposed Plan

ROD = Record of Decision

OU = Operable Unit

• A document called the Site 300

Monitoring Record of Decision will be prepared to assure everything is tied together. The Site 300 Monitoring Record of Decision will also detail the environmental monitoring that will be done to assure that if something does not work as planned, it can be changed until it does. The document and the monitoring results will be shared with the public.

Specific Areas

- At Pit 6, landfill capping will be done as a CERCLA
 Removal Action by December 1997. Under the previous schedule, the capping would
 not have been done until late 1998 at the earliest. Therefore, the schedule is shortened by at least one year.
- At Building 850/Pits 3&5, monitoring of the ground water will continue. Potential sites
 of contaminant releases at Pits 3&5 will be addressed, either by adding additional capping material to the pits, installing drainage diversion ditches, extending the existing
 Pit 7 interceptor ditch, or by some other method. The selected remedy or remedies
 will be implemented as a CERCLA Removal Action.
- The Removal Action EE/CA document for the Building 850/Pits 3&5 area will be submitted to the regulatory agencies for their review by December 1996, a full year earlier than could have been accomplished under the previous schedule.
- If it is determined that ground water cleanup is warranted at the HE Process Area/Building 815 Operable Unit, that cleanup will be done as a CERCLA Removal Action. That decision is expected by January 1996.



Also at the HE Process Area/Building 815
area, excavation of the buried drums at
Building 823 will be conducted as a CERCLA Removal Action. This should be
completed by September 1997, a full year
earlier than it could have been done by
following the conventional CERCLA process.

Summary

The overall result of this proposal is to speed the clean up and reduce cost to the taxpayer. It also increases the public's understanding of what is being done. The new documents are shorter and simpler, easier to communicate. The actions will happen faster and more smoothly and not be stretched out over long periods of time.

For More Information

As the environmental restoration program progresses at Site 300, LLNL will keep you informed of events in update fact sheets. If you have comments, questions, or wish to be added to the mailing list to receive future information about Site 300, please contact:

Bert Heffner

Environmental Communications LLNL, P.O. Box 808, L-790 Livermore, CA 94551 (510) 424-4026

If you would like more detailed information about the site, visit an information repository for Site 300 information and technical documents:

LLNL Visitors Center*

(located at the LLNL main site)
Enter from Greenville Road
Livermore, CA 94551
For information call
(510) 422-9797
Hours: Mon., Tues.,
Thurs., Fri. 10 am -- 4:30 pm
Wed. 12:30 pm -- 4:30 pm
Closed weekends and Laboratory
holidays.

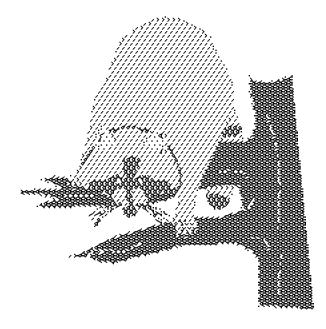
* This location contains the Administrative Record for Site 300, which includes all documents and correspondence related to the environmental cleanup. The Administrative Record is stored on microfiche.

Tracy Public Library

20 E. Eaton Avenue Tracy, CA 95376 (209) 835-2221

Hours: Mon. 1 pm - 8 pm
Tues. 10 am - 5 pm
Thurs. 2 pm - 6 pm
Sat. 12 pm - 5 pm

Closed on Wed., Fri., and Sun.

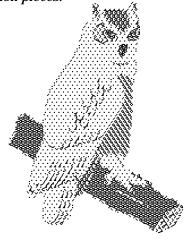


Stockton Public Library

605 North El Dorado Street Stockton, CA 95202 (209) 937-8221

Hours: Mon./Wed./Thurs.10 am - 9 pm Tues./Fri. 10 am - 6 pm Sat. 10 am - 5 pm Closed on Sun. and on the second Wed. of every month.

NOTE: Stockton is an auxiliary repository and does not contain all documents. Documents available at Stockton include the Executive Summary of the SWRI, complete final Feasibility Study documents, and all public information pieces.



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